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TELEGRAM (*Translation*).

(Dated) Lick Observatory, Sept. 11.

To Harvard College Observatory: (Sent 4:05 P.M.)

Elements and Ephemeris of Comet *d*, 1896 (GIACOBINI) were computed by PERRINE as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} T &= \text{September } 27.12 \\ \omega &= 160^{\circ} 51' \\ \Omega &= 191 \quad 38 \\ i &= 6 \quad 56 \\ q &= 1.0320 \end{aligned}$$

[The agreement with the middle observation is exact in longitude, to 1" in latitude.] The ephemeris from September 12th to September 24th is here omitted.

TELEGRAM.

(Dated) LOS ANGELES, Sept. 21.

(Received 11^h 15^m A.M. Sept. 21).

Last night at sunset object as bright as *Venus* 1° east of Sun.

L. SWIFT.

TELEGRAM.

(Dated) BOSTON, Sept. 22, 1896.

(Received 7^h 35^m P.M.)

LEWIS SWIFT announces small bright comet Sunday night [Sept. 20] 1° east of the Sun; Monday, same [?] north brighter.

(Signed) JOHN RITCHIE, Jr.

TELEGRAM (*Translation*).

(Dated) Lick Observatory, Sept. 29.

To Harvard College Observatory: (Sent 8^h 20^m P.M.)

Comet GIACOBINI was observed by HUSSEY and PERRINE Sept. 28.7156 G. M. T.; R. A. 18^h 4^m 58^s.7, Decl. — 11° 12' 24". It is growing fainter.

COMET 1896 (SPERRA).

From the *Science Observer Circular* No. 113, dated Boston, September 12, received by mail at Mount Hamilton, September 19, it appears that Comet *e* was not discovered by BROOKS on September 4 (as announced in the foregoing telegrams) but by SPERRA on August 31. It should therefore be called Comet *d*, and GIACOBINI'S Comet of September 4 should receive the letter *e*. The following paragraph from the *Science Observer Circular* No. 113 contains all the information at present available:

"COMET 1896 (SPERRA).

"The first telegram with reference to this comet was received September 6 from W. R. BROOKS, who announced that he had

seen a comet (probably SPERRA'S) on September 4, in R. A. $13^h 36^m$, Decl. $+ 55^\circ 40'$. A letter received at Harvard College Observatory from Allegheny Observatory, states that W. E. SPERRA, of Randolph, O., addressed to Professor KEELER a letter under date of September 1, stating that on August 31, $9^h 14^m$, while sweeping through *Ursa Major*, he found a nebulous object west of *Zeta*, in R. A. $13^h 8^m 25^s$, Decl. $+ 55^\circ 40'$ (1896). Observation during an hour and a quarter showed motion. In a later letter to the same observatory (September 2), Mr. SPERRA gives an observation of September 1, when the comet was in R. A. $13^h 14^m 30^s$, Decl. $+ 55^\circ 43'$. On September 4, Mr. BROOKS, who had had notice of the discovery, swept through the region and found the comet. Since that time the object has been observed at the Lick Observatory by HUSSEY and PERRINE."

REQUEST FOR OBSERVATIONS OF COMET *b*, (1896) SWIFT.

Having undertaken the computation of the definitive elements of Comet *b*, 1896 (SWIFT, April 13), I shall be very glad to receive any observations of this comet that have not as yet been published.

R. G. AITKEN.

DISTANCES BETWEEN LICK OBSERVATORY AND SAN JOSÉ.

The following distances on the Mount Hamilton road are derived from the readings of a cyclometer attached to my bicycle during a recent ride from the mountain to Oakland (63.7 miles):

	Levels.	Distances.
Lick Observatory,	[4209.5 feet]	0.0 miles
Oh! My! Point,		0.7 "
Tennis Court,		1.8 "
Chinese Camp,		2.7 "
Water-Trough,		3.5 "
Kincaid's Road,		5.5 "
Santa Ysabel Hotel,	[2146.2 feet]	7.0 "
Summit of Grade (into Hall's Valley)		8.- "
Snell's Barn,		11.9 "
Half-Way House,	[about 1540 feet]	12.4 "
Summit of Grade (out of Hall's Valley)	[1838 feet]	14.1 "
Grand View House,	[1500.5 feet]	15.9 "
Junction House,	[389.0 feet]	20.2 "
San José,	[88.7 feet]	— " "

The figures in square brackets are elevations above sea, derived from a survey made by Professor RAYMOND in 1887.

ALLEN H. BABCOCK.

A BRIGHT METEOR SEEN SEPTEMBER 6, 1896.

A meteor, about as bright as a first magnitude star, having a short, brilliant train, was seen on September 6th, at 7^h 57^m P.M. It appeared close under ϵ *Pegasi*, and moved slowly toward β *Cassiopeiae*, disappearing when about 2° distant from that star. Its flight occupied five or six seconds. R. G. AITKEN.

NEW SHORT-PERIOD VARIABLE STAR IN *GEMINI*.

[EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM MR. EDWIN F. SAWYER.]

(Dated) BRIGHTON, Sept. 15, 1896.

"* * * In connection with this work, I discovered a few months ago another short-period variable in *Gemini*, with a period of about eight days, and range from 6.8 to 7.6 magnitude. Its position is R. A. 6^h 29^m 14^s; Decl. +15° 24'.8."

COST OF THE CROSSLEY DOME, ETC.

From the ninth annual report of the Director of the LICK Observatory to the President of the University of California, dated September 1, 1896, the following is taken:

The total contributions to the fund for installing the CROSSLEY Reflector at Mount Hamilton amounted to . . . \$5085.00.

All of this money has been paid out for materials and labor, according to an itemized account to be printed in the Report of the Secretary of the University for the Fiscal Year ending July 1, 1896.

The Southern Pacific Company transported the heavier parts of the Dome and Telescope from New York to San José free of cost. The value of this service was . . . \$1005.14.

The Wells-Fargo Express Company transported the mirrors and delicate parts of the apparatus from New York to San José free of cost. The value of this service was . . . \$323.80.

From the annual budget of the LICK Observatory there has been expended for materials and labor the sum of . . . \$782.17.

72000 brick belonging to the University have been used in the construction of the Dome (at cost, \$12 per M.) . . . \$864.00.

The time spent by the observatory workmen on the CROSSLEY Dome and Telescope, if reckoned at their regular rates of pay, would amount to . . . \$1156.33.

Cost of the BRUCE Spectroscope: from the fund given by Miss CATHERINE W. BRUCE, \$500; from the annual budget of